NAME

getprotoent, **getprotobynumber**, **getprotobyname**, **setprotoent**, **endprotoent -** get protocol entry

LIBRARY

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

#include <netdb.h>

*struct protoent **
getprotoent(*void*);

*struct protoent **
getprotobyname(*const char *name*);

*struct protoent **
getprotobynumber(*int proto*);

void
setprotoent(*int stayopen*);

void
endprotoent(*void*);

DESCRIPTION

The **getprotoent**(), **getprotobyname**(), and **getprotobynumber**() functions each return a pointer to an object with the following structure containing the broken-out fields of a line in the network protocol data base, */etc/protocols*.

```
struct protoent {
        char    *p_name;/* official name of protocol */
        char    **p_aliases;        /* alias list */
        int     p_proto;  /* protocol number */
};
```

The members of this structure are:

p_name The official name of the protocol.

p_aliases A zero terminated list of alternate names for the protocol.

p_proto The protocol number.

The **getprotoent**() function reads the next line of the file, opening the file if necessary.

The **setprotoent**() function opens and rewinds the file. If the *stayopen* flag is non-zero, the net data base will not be closed after each call to **getprotobyname**() or **getprotobynumber**().

The **endprotoent**() function closes the file.

The **getprotobyname**() function and **getprotobynumber**() sequentially search from the beginning of the file until a matching protocol name or protocol number is found, or until EOF is encountered.

RETURN VALUES

Null pointer returned on EOF or error.

FILES

/etc/protocols

SEE ALSO

protocols(5)

HISTORY

The **getprotoent**(), **getprotobynumber**(), **getprotobyname**(), **setprotoent**(), and **endprotoent**() functions appeared in 4.2BSD.

BUGS

These functions use a thread-specific data space; if the data is needed for future use, it should be copied before any subsequent calls overwrite it. Only the Internet protocols are currently understood.